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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. UPTON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 16, 1998.

I hereby designate the Honorable FRED UPTON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

With the psalmist of biblical times we wish to begin our day by making a joyful noise to You, O God, by serving You with gladness and by coming into Your presence with singing. We know too that there are times when there is no singing, no gladness and our voices are muted with uncertainty. At all the moments of life may we sing the words of Isaac Watts, "O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come." O God, may Your good spirit of thanksgiving and gladness enter each person's heart and may Your reconciling blessing touch us day by day with peace and mercy and love. In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MENENDEZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 1-minutes on each side.

THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES OF FORGIVEN SIN

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, there have been numerous discussions on God's ability to forgive sin. All sin. Forgiveness through Christ is complete. Absolute.

However, the bible is replete with the consequences of forgiven sin. Follow the children of Israel as they take their 11-day journey to the promised land, only to be turned back, forced to wander for another 40 years. King David's illicit relationship with Bathsheba ended in the death of his child and the challenge to the throne by another child. The thief on the cross asked and received forgiveness, but he still died on the cross for his transgression.

There are consequences of forgiven sin.

SAUDI ARABIA MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR DEBTS

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, Hill International is a New Jersey company who has sought to resolve a \$55 million claim with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia dating from the 1970s for work performed on a power and desalinization plant.

There is no question that the work was finished, because the plant is in operation today. The issue is whether or not the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Prince Bandar will step forward and pay for the services they received.

Now, I come to the floor today, with many of my colleagues, out of sheer frustration. After 3 years of asking, Members have not been able to get a meeting with Prince Bandar. Our government should stand up for U.S. companies and citizens who are economically hurt by foreign countries.

How long will Members of Congress have to wait before we can have a meeting? Prince Bandar and Crown Prince Abdullah will be in Washington in just a few days. I hope that they will honor our long-standing request for a meeting and, more importantly, I hope that Saudi Arabia will meet its obligation to pay for what work was done, as is observed under international rules and law.

Saudi Arabia should pay the claim of this U.S. company who did the work and should be paid.

HILL INTERNATIONAL DESERVES TO BE PAID FOR WORK DONE

(Mr. SAXTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, just as the previous speaker, I rise on behalf of one of my constituents, Hill International, a company which has fought for over a decade to collect a debt from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It is an

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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